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HANDBOOK ON THE LAW OF PARTNERSHIP. By Eugene Allen Gilmore. St. Paul: West Publishing Company. 1911. pp. xiii, 721.

This book is one of the best of the Hornbook Series. It was at first intended as a second edition of George on Partnership, but so much of the material is new and so much of the earlier treatise is abandoned that the new title is amply justified. The chapters on Actions between Partners and Actions between Partners and Third Persons are substantially taken from the earlier work, but both the arrangement and text of the other chapters are almost entirely new.

Professor Gilmore has not attempted to contribute to the philosophy of the law of partnership but he has analyzed and stated clearly and, for the most part accurately, the present state of the law on this subject as it is administered to-day in this country. Occasionally his statements are rather too general and therefore inaccurate. Thus, in referring to the general doctrine of equitable conversion, he states on page 154 that if the owner "has indicated his intention to alter his real property into personal property or his personal property into real property, equity will treat the property as though the intention had been carried out." Certainly, the mere intention of the owner, even his expressed intention, is insufficient to work a conversion. Indeed, Professor Gilmore shows in his application of the doctrine to partnership property that the conversion is the result of the nature of the rights of the partners in the partnership property and is not merely dependent upon intention.

The book is very fully annotated and about five thousand cases are cited. The author has very ably fulfilled his purpose of making a clear and definite statement of the leading principles of the law of partnership so far as the scope of the work permits.

A. W. S.

A HISTORY OF THE AMERICAN BAR. By Charles Warren. Boston: Little, Brown and Company. 1911. pp. xii, 586.

No single volume could fairly be expected to square with the title of this book. There is a careful, fairly balanced, detailed account of the bars of the different colonies. Each is distinct, yet the reader can readily follow the tendency toward unity, toward a real American Bar. No easy task is this for an author, for the several necessary geographical subdivisions mar continuity of narrative. The influence of the English Bar of the time is properly emphasized. It bore intimate relation to the violent and distorted popular reactions against the English common law, its lawyers, and its judges. Incidentally the details of the rise and fall of such attacks may carry balm to those who look with too serious alarm upon recent symptoms of this recurring distemper.

The second half of the book does not attempt to cover the field in order, but sends out independent but effective scouting parties to examine the most significant features of our legal history from 1789 to 1860. This part is specifically labelled "Federal Bar"; but is more comprehensive than the title indicates. Besides the federal bar, the bars of the states are described, notably those of New York and of Massachusetts. In a general discussion of what the author calls the progress of the law, 1830-1860, in the list "of the Chief Justices who have left a marked impress upon the course of legal development" (p. 447), seven Chief Justices of states are named. The name of Thomas Ruffin is, however, not among them.

The origin and infancy of railroad law, corporation law, insurance law, personal injuries law, are sketched with care and skill. Of the evolution of legal education, of the exotic called codification, of the writing of modern law books,

and of the deep-going changes in the mental habits of the legal profession produced thereby, the author's vein is at its richest.

Lord Campbell, writing of a compact, highly organized class in a territory forming only a tiny fractional part of this author's field, with many volumes at his disposal, has fixed the average reader in the belief that his legal history is to be learned most readily through biography. "Great American Lawyers," in spite of the diversities of style and matter within its volumes, has not dispelled the idea. But in a single volume one will not ask for more than we have here.

S. M.